Subject: Gold coins minted in S.C.

Webber, Mabel L.

[South Carolina Historical Society
Charleston, S.C.]

1932

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Charleston Library Society Building
King Street
Charleston, S.C.

Sept. 30. 1932.

Mr.Sidney P.Noe,
Secretary of the Numismatic Society,
150 Street and Broadway,
New York City.

My dear Sir:

Can you give me any information what so ever.concerning gold coins minted in South Carolina, in the early half of the 19th Century ? I have had inquiries concerning a mint situated at Jefferson S.C., but can find no information about any such mint or coins. There are examples in the hands of some of the collectors in S.C., of a gold dollar made by A.Bechtler, said to have been a jeweler in Spartanburg S.C., and these are marked "Carolina Gold". Some catalogues that are available to me, attribute this coin to North Carolina, as far as I can make out they were privately issued, but accepted as specie.

Yours very truly

Mabel L Webber

Templeton Reid
Dunwoody Ga

MLW/EHJ.

October 8, 1932.

Miss Mabel L. Webber
South Carolina Historical Society
Charleston Library Society Building
Charleston, S. C.

Dear Miss Webber:

We have never heard of any gold coins minted in South Carolina. From 1838 to 1861 the government had a mint at Charlotte, N. C. and during the same period at Dahlonega, Georgia. In the early 30's Templeton Reid struck, privately, gold coins in Lumpkin County, Georgia, from gold from that region. In the 30's and 40's Augustus Bechtler and Christopher Bechtler struck gold coins at Rutherfordton in Rutherford County, North Carolina, of gold that came from Georgia and North and South Carolina. These Bechtlers carried on a watchmaking and jewelry business as well but as far as I know only at Rutherfordton. About the best account of these coins is summed up in a pamphlet "The Bechtlers and Bechtler Coinage and Gold Mining in North Carolina, 1814-1830" by Clarence Griffin, Spindale, N. C.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

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Charleston Library Society Building
King Street
Charleston, S. C.

Oct. 11. 1932.

Mr. Howland Wood,
Broadway between 155th
and 156th Streets,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Wood:

Thank you very much for your letter of Oct. 8th, and the information which it contains.

I will continue my investigation, and see if the traditions, if it may be so called, concerning the South Carolina coins, has any foundation.

Yours very truly
Mabel L Webber

MLW/EHJ.